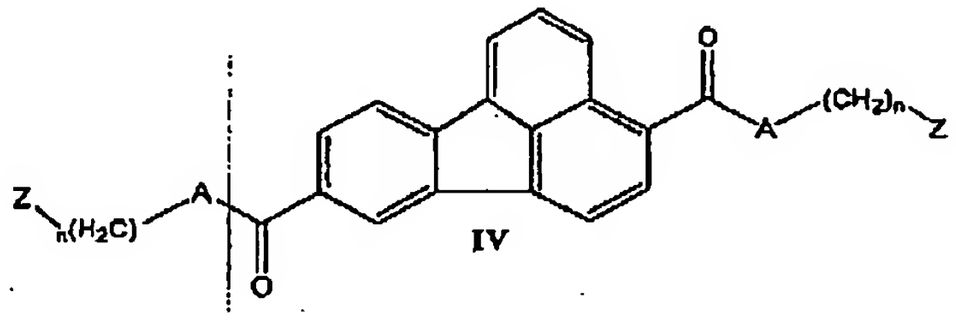
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 47 (Currently Amended) A compound of the Formula IV:



IV

wherein:

n is 0 to 4;

A is CH_2, O, or S; and

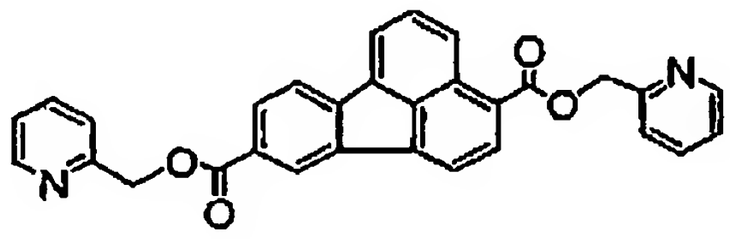
Z is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, or $=N(R^3)(R^4)$, wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, and R^4 is hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, heterocycloalkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkylamino, arylamino, or R^3 and R^4 are taken to form a substituted or unsubstituted five to six membered aromatic ring;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug of said compound, ~~pharmaceutically active metabolite of said compound,~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound ~~or metabolite~~.

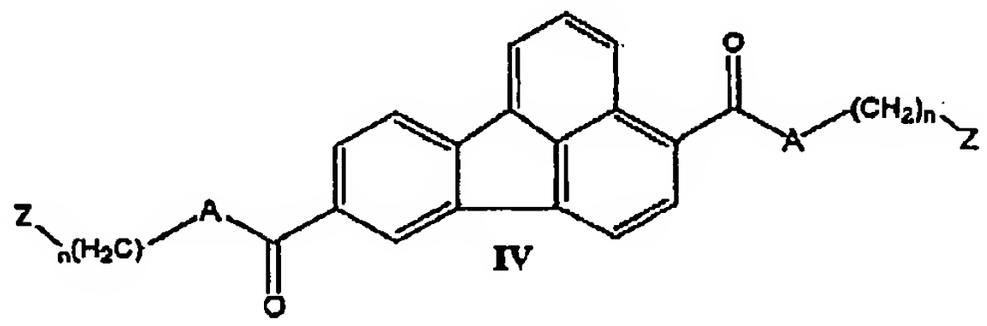
Claim 48 (Currently Amended) A compound, prodrug, ~~metabolite,~~ or salt according to claim 47, wherein: n is 1 to 3; A is CH_2 or O; and Z is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, or $N(R^3)(R^4)$, wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, and R^4 is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, or R^3 and R^4 are taken

together to form a substituted or unsubstituted five to six membered aromatic ring.

Claim 49 (Currently Amended) A compound, prodrug, ~~metabolite,~~ or salt according to claim 48 selected from:



Claim 50 (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a compound of formula IV:



IV

wherein:

n is 0 to 4;

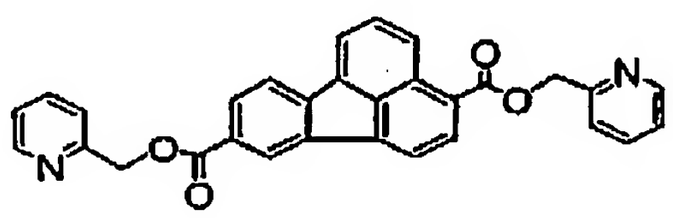
A is CH_2, O, or S; and

Z is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, or $-N(R^3)(R^4)$, wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, and R^4 is a hydrogren, a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, heterocycloalkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, alkylamino, arylamino, or R^3 and R^4 are taken together to form a substituted or unsubstituted five to six membered aromatic ring;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug of said compound, ~~pharmaceutically active metabolite of said compound,~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound ~~or metabolite~~.

Claim 51 (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 50, wherein: n is 1 to 3; A is CH_2 or O; and Z is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, or $N(R^3)(R^4)$, wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or heteroaryl, and R^4 is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl, or R^3 and R^4 are taken together to form a substituted or unsubstituted five to six member aromatic ring.

Claim 52 (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 51, wherein the compound is selected from:



Claim 53 (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 50, wherein said composition is included in a delivery platform selected from the group consisting of ~~administered as~~ a sterile solution, a suspension, and an ~~or~~ emulsion, and wherein the pharmaceutical composition is present in the delivery platform in a single or divided dose.

Claim 54 (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 50, wherein said composition is included in a delivery platform selected from the group consisting of~~administered as~~ a capsule and a ~~or~~ tablet, wherein the capsule or tablet comprises ~~containing~~ a single or divided dose of said compound.

Claim 55 (Original) The composition according to claim 50, wherein the composition is a solid implant.

Claim 56 (Original) The composition according to claim 50, wherein the carrier comprises a biodegradable polymer.

Claim 57 (Original) The composition according to claim 56, wherein the biodegradable polymer releases the compound of formula IV over a prolonged time.

Claim 58 (Original) A method of modulating or inhibiting PARG by administering a compound of Formula IV according to claim 47, or a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug, pharmaceutically active metabolite, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt of such compound or metabolite thereof, to treat diseases and disorders selected from acute pain, arthritis, atherosclerosis, cachexia, cardiovascular disorders, chronic pain, degenerative diseases, diabetes, head trauma, hyperglycemia, immune senescence, inflammatory bowel disorders, ischemia, macular degeneration, muscular dystrophy, tissue damage resulting from ischemia and reperfusion injury, neurological disorders and neurodegenerative diseases, neuronal tissue damage or disease, neuropathic pain, nervous insult, osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, peripheral nerve injury, renal failure, resuscitated hemorrhagic shock, retinal ischemia, septic shock, skin aging, vascular stroke, diseases or disorders relating to lifespan or proliferative capacity of cells, and diseases or disease conditions induced or exacerbated by cellular senescence.

Claim 59 (Original) The method according to claim 58 wherein the diseases or conditions are selected from diabetes, head trauma, inflammatory bowel disorders, ischemia, tissue damage resulting from ischemia and reperfusion injury, neurological disorders and neurodegenerative diseases, neuronal tissue damage disease, neuropathic pain, nervous insult, peripheral nerve injury, retinal ischemia, vascular stroke, and diseases or disorders relating to lifespan or proliferative capacity of cells.

Claim 60 (Original) The method according to claim 59 wherein the disease or condition is tissue damage relating from ischemia and reperfusion injury.